



FERDINAND/PIKE STATE FOREST

THE RANGER

APRIL 2010

Emerald Ash Borer is in Dubois County!



EAB Adult

UGA1241011

On November 6, 2009 Dubois County was placed under quarantine due to the presence of Emerald Ash Borer. The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic, invasive wood boring beetle that was introduced to the United States in 2002 on cargo imported from Asia. EAB kills native North American ash trees, both in forests and landscape plantings. Just like chestnut blight and Dutch elm disease before it, EAB is capable of eliminating an entire tree species from forests and cities throughout the land. This makes it one of the most serious environmental threats now facing North American forests. The economic and ecological impact of emerald ash borer has already been substantial, and it will be staggering as

this exotic pest continues to spread.

The reason for the quarantines is because the spread of EAB has been accelerated through human-assisted movement of infested firewood and other wood products.

What does this mean for you? If you live in a county in Indiana that is under quarantine, you cannot move firewood from that county to any Indiana state park, reservoir, or state forest. Additionally, firewood cannot be transported across state lines from any county in Indiana. This applies to all hardwood, not just ash. The reason for this is because it can be difficult to identify the tree species after a log has been cut into firewood. Also, burn all of your firewood when you camp. Do not leave it for other campers, regardless of its source or species. If you live in a quarantined county in Indiana, you may bring firewood from a non-quarantined Indiana county into the campground. We ask that you bring a receipt or other proof of purchase that clearly indicates where the firewood was purchased. All it takes is one piece of firewood with a few unseen EAB larvae to start a new infestation in your favorite campground.

If firewood is purchased from within a quarantined county it may be moved only if that firewood bears a USDA Stamp or Indiana State Label indicating the firewood vendor has a Federal or Indiana State compliance agreement. Please keep the certificate with the firewood so it can be verified. **Firewood that does not comply with these guidelines will be confiscated.** To find a list of firewood vendors with a state compliance agreement, or to get more information, go to <http://www.in.gov/dnr/> and click on the Emerald Ash Borer icon.



EAB Larvae

2010/2011 TIMBER HARVESTS

Several timber sales have been planned at Ferdinand/Pike State Forest. Tract inventories and management plans have been written, however, marking has not yet been initiated. Below are the locations along with a brief description of each recommended harvest.

Compartment 2, Tract 4

This tract is located in Dubois County in Sections 7, 8, 17 and 18 of T3S, R3W, and about ½ mile north of the Ferdinand State Forest office. The sale is expected to generate an estimated 207,500 board feet from the tract's 138 acres.

Compartment 3, Tracts 3 & 4

These tracts are located in Dubois County in Sections 3 and 4, T3S, R3W, about 3 miles southwest of Birdseye. The plan for these tracts is to remove approximately 500,000 board feet of pine and hardwoods from the total of 180 acres. The pine areas will be allowed to regenerate into native hardwoods.

Compartment 4, Tract 8

This tract has been planned for harvest for several years but has been delayed for various reasons. The tract is located in Perry County in Section 18, T3S, R2W, and about 4 miles southeast of Birdseye. The sale is expected to generate an estimated 60,000 board feet from the tract's 105 acres.

Compartment 7, Tract 4

This tract is located in Perry County in Sections 3 & 10, T4S, R3W, and about 3 miles north of Bristow. This harvest is expected to remove about 162,000 board feet from the tract's 88 acres.

Compartment 10, Tract 2

This tract was planned for last year but was delayed until this year. The tract is in Pike County in Section 1, T2S, R7W, and about 2.5 miles northwest of Velpen. The sale is expected to remove about 66,000 board feet from the tract's 66 acres.



State forest management guides and timber sales are available for public inspection and comment at <http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3631.htm>

Ask a Forester by Doug Brown

Question: I notice a lot of dead trees in parts of the Forest. Is there an insect or disease problem?

Answer: Trees have life expectancies, just like us. And just like us that expectancy depends on a number of factors including their genes (which includes their species), the kind of life they have lived and what has happened around them. Some trees, like the oaks, tend to live longer than some others, like most of the pine. Also most trees will live longer on better sites where they have plenty of moisture and nutrients than on dry and nutrient poor sites. And trees that avoid a lot of competition, storms, damage and other injuries tend to live longer. What we are seeing in the Forest include some of the black, red and scarlet oaks dying on our drier sites. Though these species may live up to 200 years in a best case scenario, we are finding them dying at half or less that age on many of our sites. Many of the pine, including red, Virginia and shortleaf are also dying as they reach their biological maturity. The most recent thing we are seeing is stress, decline and mortality in yellow poplar. This tends to be worse on the drier sites and is generally blamed on droughts over the last 20 years or so. In the future we expect to see mortality in other species as maturity, climatic events and insects and disease occur. These include Emerald Ash Borer and Gypsy Moth as both are headed this way in the coming years.

Question: It seems like there has been a lot of heavy cutting at the Forest. How can this be sustainable?

Answer: It is true that we have increased our harvest levels in the Division of Forestry. In fact, harvest levels have increased by four or five times. However, our forests are growing a lot of wood. So much in fact that even with the increases we are only cutting about 60 percent of our growth! So what this means is that even with the cutting we have more wood at the end of the year than we had at the beginning. We were cutting so little wood that much of it was dying before we could harvest it. The other problem with our harvesting was that we were being so conservative that we were not creating the conditions needed to regenerate the kind of hardwoods we want. With too little harvesting stands tend to favor the shade tolerant species like beech and sugar maple. We were literally converting, or allowing the conversion, of thousands of acres of oak to become sugar maple and beech. By harvesting more wood we create better conditions for regenerating oak, yellow poplar and other hardwoods to keep our forests as diverse as possible.

We're happy to answer your questions. Our office hours are:

Mondays, Tuesdays, & Fridays: 7:30-3:00 pm

Wednesdays, Thursdays: Call 812-367-1524 and leave a message.

FERDINAND/PIKE STATE FOREST

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Would you prefer to receive the newsletter by email?

Contact us at ferdinandsf@dnr.in.gov

OPEN HOUSE

The ninth annual Ferdinand/Pike State Forest open house will be held on Wednesday, April 21, 2010, from 3:00–7:00 pm in the office building.

Displays will include information about budget issues, recreational activities, staffing, major projects, the 2008-2013 Division of Forestry Strategic Plan, invasive species control and forest resource management.

Property personnel will be available for questions and comments. Light refreshments will be served.